To W. L. Garrison, Jr. 8/15/67

Leicester,
Aug. 13/67.

Dear Wm.

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I have to-day a letter from W. P. G. enclosing the editorial leader from last Saturday's "Standard" — of which I knew nothing before.

I have written to W. P. G. that I do not, myself, see that either of your father's sons is called upon to take up the case, by way of reply to the "Standard"; — except to have his letter to ~~the~~ me, (written to be read to the Master in Chancery) published. That, with the statement of the fact of his absence from the country, is sufficient reply, until he shall himself have the time & opp.t to speak further for himself, if he wishes to do so.

The letter was left with John Codman Esq., Master in Chancery, whose office is in Court Street (No. 4, I think)

He can doubtless tell you where it is, if not in his possession; and of him, I presume, you can obtain at least a copy, if not the original. — I am extremely sorry I did not, myself, take a copy. Perhaps your father did?

Such is my view of the case. — With most persons, W. Phillips's article will, by the grossness of its assault upon the Supreme Court, & by the freedom with which he charges the Trustees who differed from him with leaving the front ranks, and seeking support & cover elsewhere (or something of that sort), completely answer & neutralize itself. Or, if anything more is needful, your father's own letter, published in the "Standard" with the statement of his absence, will be enough to set him right with all candid persons. — Whether E., Quincy or I may see fit to reply,

for ourselves, is another question, and one which you need not be troubled about. —

When I was last in Boston, S. J. May told me that Anna Dickinson had represented to him, that your father had fully agreed to the division; — but, being influenced, or moved by some cause, had written up from the ship in the harbor at the moment of leaving, to the Master in Chancery a hurried letter, changing his ground, breaking faith, &c. Mr. May told her, he knew Mr. Garrison well enough to know that could not be so. He had full talks both with S. E. Sewall and with me about it, & was satisfied in his own mind with the facts, & said he should write to Anna Dickinson to set her right.

— A bad headache makes writing wrong, & perhaps incoherent. —

Of course, I offer my suggestions as to your & Wendell's, appearing in the "Standard", with entire deference to your own views. Truly Yr. S. May Jr.